



The Jewish

Gaily Forward

Iyyar + Sivan + Tamuz 5772 ■ May + June 2012

What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Relations between Jews and Muslims in Historical Perspective, 4:00 pm

Dr. Aron Rodrigue is an internationally renowned expert in modern Jewish history and the Ottoman Empire. Presentation will be followed by small group dialogue led by CSZ's trained facilitators. Please do not wear scents/fragrances to this event. Sponsored by the Follow-up to the Israel Survey Committee.

MONDAY, MAY 21

CSZ Annual Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm Dinner, 7:00 pm Meeting

Come celebrate the release and implementation of the Strategic Plan that you helped create. We will also elect new Va'ad officers and members, ratify the budget, honor volunteers, and recap the past year. All members are invited.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Pride at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav CSZ Pride Freedom Seder, 5:30 pm

Andrew Ramer and Karen Schiller will lead our eighth Pride Freedom Seder. Help us tell our story of liberation as queer people and allies. Wine/juice provided; please bring a vegetarian dish to share. \$5 CSZ members; \$10 general public. Limited space; register at 415.861.6932 or shaun@shaarzahav.org.

Adrienne Rich *Fierce, Unyielding, Precise* May 16, 1929–March 27, 2012

BY RABBI CAMILLE SHIRA ANGEL

Does poetry play a role in social change?

"Yes, where poetry is liberative language, connecting the fragments within us, connecting us to others like and unlike ourselves, replenishing our desire. It's potentially catalytic speech because it's more than speech: it is associative, metaphoric, dialectical, visual, musical; in poetry words can say more than they mean and mean more than they say. In a time of frontal assaults both on language and on human solidarity, poetry can remind us of all we are in danger of losing—disturb us, embolden us out of resignation."

Rich, Adrienne (1986). Personal interview with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel.

By the time you read this column, *sheloshim* will have ended for Adrienne Rich. Many obituaries will have paid tribute to this honored, luminary lesbian, Jewish poet, and countless poems and prose will have been recited among friends and lovers. Nonetheless, I want to share some of the reflections I've been able to gather from among congregants whose lives came under her influence.

Personally, Adrienne Rich was one of my heroes. I first listened to her speak when I was a freshman at UC Santa Cruz, and she was a guest lecturer in my Feminism 101 class. She was the most out, proud, powerful woman I had ever encountered. Her words were fierce, unyielding, precise. Rich used language with an unflinching determination to name our experience and thereby liberate us from an existence built "on lies, secrets and silence." I had tried to be someone else for so long. Finally, I felt I could be myself and still have an ally; she was no stranger—she seemed to know me, and help me to describe myself to myself as much to anyone else. What an incredible gift—to help someone feel seen and known and valued and entitled to love.

I've read "Some Notes on Lying: Women and Honor" more than any other single essay. Thank you, Adrienne for your insights, which have helped so many of us navigate our relationships with greater honesty and courage. Your memory will always be a blessing.

Dan Bellm writes, "Adrienne Rich was a wonderful mentor and friend—one of the very few people in this world without whom I may not have gone on writing and hoping. Early on, I nervously showed her a few paltry poems, and her response is something that remained taped to my wall for years: 'Yes, you must continue.' Her generosity to so many, many of us just cannot be measured. And it feels impossible to describe how she changed the world—few of us can even imagine her situation as a thinking, feeling, intelligent woman, poet, and mother in the early 1950s, and how she and a few women basically had to invent the world they wished to live in. It had not been available before. I always come (continued on page 2)

Adrienne Rich (continued from page 1)



back to the ending of her great poem, "Natural Resources"—it's in her book, *The Dream of a Common Language*, in which she very publicly came out as a lesbian with those sublime "Twenty-One Love Poems." The poem "Natural Resources" ends:

My heart is moved by all I cannot save:
so much has been destroyed

I have to cast my lot with those
who age after age, perversely,

with no extraordinary power,
reconstitute the world.

Hilary Zaid writes, "I had the good luck to run into Adrienne Rich twice during my college days—once when she was signing books at New Words the women's bookstore in Cambridge. Instead of a book, I brought a blank white t-shirt up to her and asked her to sign it with a sharpie. She gave me a very skeptical look. She wanted to know what I was going to put on that t-shirt after she signed it. Understandable. Of course, I had no idea what I was going to put on that shirt. In the end, she did sign it, with the quote: Poetry never stood a chance of standing outside history. I still have it, well preserved, in my t-shirt drawer.

I would say, though, that my most meaningful encounter with Ms. Rich happened when I was a senior in college, and my best friend, who was taking a women's studies class, was reading *The Dream of a Common Language* and told me she thought I would really like it. We were holed up in the snow over winter break, waiting for college letters to come in, and I remember reading that book, and, though I was sleeping with my other best friend, had no words for what was going on between us. I remember making my way into *The Dream of a Common Language* and that sensation of the hairs on my neck pricking up: Was she talking about...? Did she mean? Until I hit that poem in the "Twenty One Love Poems", 'We were two lovers of one gender.' And suddenly, I found I that I did exist."

Andrew Ramer writes, "Twenty-something me, bookstore clerk, friend of several of her friends, more terrified of her the first time I met her than anyone else I've ever met. Her immense wisdom, courage, power. I literally sat at her feet once, and never said a word. Sat across from her, next to her, near her, many times, and never said a word. But her words, the common language she named and gave to us, allowed me and so many others of us to exist, as humans, as writers."

Nancy Levin writes, "I read her essay 'Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence' when I first came out. It was an anchor for me when I felt marginalized in society, and strangely, by some feminists, for being a lesbian."

Rose Katz writes, "Adrienne Rich's pamphlet *Women and Honor: Some Notes on Lying* (1975) had a deep effect on me, dealing as it does with the concept of honesty between women. She says, 'Lying is done with words, and also with silence.' It is not only what is said that can profoundly change how we relate to one another, but what is not said."

Jo Ellen Kaiser writes, "I trusted Adrienne Rich, trusted her voice, so when she wrote in her later years about loss and aging, it was as if she held up a mirror to my future self, teaching me that passion can vibrate through every life transition."

Susan Lubeck writes, "Lightning bolt: reading 'Compulsory Heterosexuality and the Lesbian Continuum,' a world opened up, a way of seeing reality that had been obscured before. Later, the poems and more essays, and...more poems! Before I had Jewish text or Jewish time or a (Jewish) rabbi, I had Adrienne Rich. Her poems and essays opened up a world of art and politics that I hadn't accessed before. Her work shaped my ethics, my politics, my sense of possibility, my identity. From the breathtaking "Twenty One Love Poems" in *The Dream of a Common Language*:

... how have I used rivers, how have I used wars
to escape writing of the worst thing of all—
not the crimes of others, not even our own death,
but the failure to want our freedom passionately enough
so that blighted elms, sick rivers, massacres would seem
mere emblems of that desecration of ourselves?

(continued on page 11)

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Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism, the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Jews, and the San Francisco Organizing Project



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Drawing Near to the Divine



I HAVE LIVED in San Francisco for 32 years, and I'm a Jewish lesbian feminist, so I've participated in a lot of support groups, discussion groups, dialogue groups, therapy groups in those years – if we could talk about it, I was there. I think it's important and useful to talk things out; how else do you get information and insight into yourself and others?

But recently I've been asked to consider that while talking is great, there also comes a time when you have to stop talking and *do*.

The first time this was asked of me was when Rabbi Arik Ascherman of Rabbis for Human Rights was giving a presentation here at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (as one of the programs organized by our "Follow-Up to the Israel Survey Committee"). He was talking about the work his organization does to prevent human rights violations in Israel, and he kept saying, "Dialogue groups are fine, they're good, but you should also get out and work, do something." In other words, put your body where your mouth is.

The second time was when our treasurer, David Mishook, gave a drash on Parshat Vayikra, about ritual sacrifices. With his permission, I'll quote excerpts from his drash:

"What is it to sacrifice? To be called? Our ancient tradition met these questions literally when physical sacrifice was the center of our temple cult. We read this week in Parshat Vayikra about our people's sacrificial tradition. Our people are taught that when they seek to communicate with the Eternal, they should bring a physical sacrifice to the entrance of the Tabernacle."

"When the second temple was destroyed by the Romans and the center of our sacrificial life was lost, the rabbis built our tradition on its rubble. The external became internal. The kohanim, the high priests, no longer sprinkled blood on the alter as a way of physically honoring the life blood God had given to us. Rather we found a new way to honor God. We became a nation of priests who honor God through *avodah shel balev*, the service of the heart, and *g'milut chasadim*, acts of loving kindness."

"But have we lost anything in abandoning sacrifice? Sacrifice is itself the wrong word. Sacrifice is derived from the Latin *sacrificium*, "to make holy." It is a transubstantial act, focused on the thing to be offered, not the offeree. The Hebrew word *korban* is derived from the verb form *l'hakriv* meaning "to draw near." We draw near to God and show gratitude to Her for Her gift of life and for Her gift of our generations by offering Her something precious to us - an ox, a goat, a sheep, doves, or simple flour mixed with oils."

David asked us, "How often do we allow ourselves to be lost in the life of the mind? How many times do we allow good thoughts to supplant good deeds? At what cost do we allow ourselves to be lulled into believing we are satisfying the commandment to draw near solely through prayer, and forget that, at the core of our tradition, is that rather we should seek to move nearer to God through giving what is precious to us? And what is a better tabernacle to which to bring these gifts than to our Mishkan, to our larger community, and to our fellow man?"

He ended by recommitting himself to fulfilling the requirement of *Korban* by digging down and increasing his monetary donation to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and by asking himself, "What can I give of myself that can draw me closer to God?" He asked us to consider what we could give of ourselves that would draw us closer to God, reminding us that "our Mishkan Dolores is our Tent of Meeting as of old where we choose to draw nearer to God. We would do well to consider that when we realize the vitality of this community, we will know that our offering has been pleasing."

David, like any good treasurer should, put an emphasis on financial giving – and I want to stress that it is important that you support our community financially. As we wrap up this year's Rainbow Campaign, it is good to consider how your financial offering to our community can draw you nearer to God, however you define God.

I want to add, however, another component to this idea of giving of yourself to draw near to the Divine. At our Annual Meeting on Monday, May 21, 2012, we will release the Strategic Plan that our congregation has been working on (continued on page 11)

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Volume 33, issue 3

What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav

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Services

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Marcy Adelman, PhD from Openhouse speaking at services

A Special Drash, 8:15 pm

Marcy Adelman, PhD, who founded Openhouse in 1998 with her late partner Jeanette Gurevitch, will be giving the d'var Torah on Friday, May 4, 2012. She is a nationally recognized expert in LGBT aging and is the author of several books on the subject. She provided expertise for Openhouse's landmark 2002 Needs Assessment Survey on LGBT seniors and established the key matrix of programs and relation-

ships in senior housing, services, and community building, which are the bases of the Openhouse vision. She chairs Openhouse's Policy and Research Committee. Openhouse is building housing, services and community programs to support the health and well-being of LGBT older adults.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Shabbat Simcha: 10:15 am - Service;

11:15 am - Workshops;

12:15 pm Festive Lunch

Shabbat Simcha—Growing as a Community—Etz Chaim Chee. We will focus on developmental stages of our Jewish lives. Youngsters will create art work that focuses on Jewish rituals for different life stages. Teens will have two workshops: Jewish teen programming in SF and developing good communication between teens. For adults: text study, meditation and a workshop with the Rabbi on Jewish perspectives on aging. All welcome!

FRIDAY, MAY 18

TransCelebration Shabbat

Join us to celebrate Shabbat, learn about

gender-queer perspectives on the weekly Torah reading and honor our transgender and gender-queer community.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Friday Night Live, 6:00 pm

The last Friday Night Live service for this school year. Shabbat Shalom, people of youth! Come celebrate a Shabbat specially designed for 0 to 6 year-olds. Our FNL service is followed by dinner in the Oneg Room. Parents sponsor pizza, and we encourage you to bring a vegetarian dish to share.

MONDAY, MAY 28

Yizkor Shavuot: Service of Remembering, 10:00 am

All are welcome to join Sha'ar Zahav as we hold Yizkor, the service of remembering. This is a beautiful service that is traditionally held on Shavuot. Say Kaddish and honor your loved ones through the mitzvah of remembrance.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

**Pride at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
CSZ Pride Freedom Seder, 5:30 pm**

Co-sponsored by Keshet; Nehirim; A Wider

PRACTICE AREAS

Divorce
Domestic Partner
Dissolution
Separation
Property & Pension
Distribution
Alimony
Custody
Visitation
Child Support
Restraining Orders
Paternity
Pre-Marital
Agreements
Post-Divorce Disputes
Modification of Orders
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We recognize that a Family Law matter is one of the most difficult challenges that you may face—whether in a traditional or alternative family setting.

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Bridge, Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice, the University of San Francisco. Andrew Ramer and Karen Schiller will lead our eighth Pride Freedom Seder. Help us tell our story of liberation as queer people and allies. Wine/juice provided; please bring a vegetarian dish to share. \$5 CSZ members; \$10 general public. Limited space; register at 415.861.6932 or shaun@shaarzahav.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Pride Shabbat, 7:30 pm

Pride Shabbat continues Saturday, June 23, 10:15 am

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Va'ad Installation at Shabbat Services, 7:30 pm

At CSZ, a covenant of leadership exists between our officers, Va'ad members and the Congregation. This annual Shabbat Service includes teachings on leadership and the installation of new Va'ad members.

Programs and Classes

TUESDAY, MAY 1 AND TUESDAY, MAY 8

Literary Genius in Tanakh Stories, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Often when we study the bible, it is to draw a moral or challenge the ideas. We don't often get to look at the stories as *stories*, with suspense, irony, humor, sarcasm, information withheld, and unreliable narrators. This class tries to fix that by looking at the Joseph novella in Genesis, the book of Jonah, and possibly a story chosen by the class for its literary merit. The class is in English but may refer to Hebrew to elucidate some points. Taught by Gabriel Lampert. RSVP to the CSZ office, 415.861.6932

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Relations between Jews and Muslims in Historical Perspective, 4:00 pm

Dr. Aron Rodrigue is an internationally renowned expert in modern Jewish history and the Ottoman Empire. He has taught History at Stanford since 1991. His publications include *Sephardi Jewry: A History of the Judeo-Spanish Community, 14th-20th Centuries* (2000, with Esther Benbassa) and *Jews and Muslims: Images of Sephardi and Eastern Jewries in Modern Times* (2003). Presentation will be followed by small group

dialogue led by CSZ's trained facilitators. Please do not wear scents/fragrances to this event. Sponsored by the Follow-up to the Israel Survey Committee.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Music in the Mishkan, 4:00 pm

Music in the Mishkan concludes its 13th season. "O Sole Trio": Three Nocturnes (Ernest Bloch), Piano Trio No. 2 in B minor (Joachim Turina), Piano trio in E minor, Op. 90 "Dumky" (Antonin Dvorak)

SATURDAY, MAY 26

Wake Up for Tikkun Leil Shavuot

At Sinai we slept through the night before receiving the Torah. It took a shofar blast to wake us up. This year we have the fabulous educators of CSZ to help us stay awake. Join Rabbi Angel, Cantor Bernstein, Ora Prochovnik and Andréa Guerra as we study various Jewish texts in traditional and not-so-traditional ways. When we study Torah, we again stand at Sinai and receive revelation. After a ma'ariv service and a dairy potluck, we'll have two tracks of workshops from 8:00 pm to 11:30 pm, from text study to collage work and creative writing. Come and add your personal midrash to our evolving understanding of Torah and the World. More details to come.

Chavurot

SATURDAY, MAY 5 AND SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Meditation Chavurah, 10:00 AM

All are welcome to join us at our meeting on the first Saturday of every month. We gather in the reception area at CSZ at about 10:00 am and walk to the nearby home of a member to sit in a lovely, peaceful setting. A typical gathering includes a short and longer silent sit often with a guided portion; some chanting; reflecting; and perhaps a short teaching. For more information, contact the office or Sarita at saritafit@gmail.com.

FRIDAY, MAY 11 AND FRIDAY, JUNE 8

East Bay Chavurah, 6:00 pm

CSZ members and their guests are invited to the East Bay Chavurah, held the second Friday of every month. Our evening begins with blessings and a vegetarian/vegan potluck. At 7:30 pm, adults and teens continue our

Shabbat experience with some meaningful text-based Jewish dialogue. To RSVP, host a future event, or get more information, please contact at jisrael68@yahoo.com.

Meetings

THURSDAY, MAY 17 AND THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Va'ad Meeting, 6:45 pm

All are welcome to attend and listen to CSZ's monthly Board meeting with its pre-set agenda.

FRIDAY, MAY 18 AND FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Tikkun Olan/Social Justice (SFOP) meeting before services, 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm

MONDAY, MAY 21

CSZ Annual Membership Meeting:

6:00 pm - Dinner; 7:00 pm - Meeting

Come celebrate the release and implementation of the Strategic Plan that you helped create. We will also elect new Va'ad officers and members, ratify the budget, honor volunteers, and recap the past year. All members are invited.

Charles Spiegel Law

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DIVORCE AND CUSTODY

ADOPTION AND SURROGACY

PRE AND POST NUPTIAL AGREEMENTS

Charles Spiegel, Esq.
CSZ Member

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Shalom BSPM Community



TODAY I am lucky enough to have some guest columnists with me to explore their experience as Bat Mitzvahs.

I will say more about the experience as a whole, but first let's hear from our students:

What was most meaningful about your Bat Mitzvah process?

Carly Ryan: "Getting close to my Hebrew school class and my mentor."

Nina Patchell: "Participating in a ritual and tradition that has gone on for hundreds of years."

Hazel Olson Dorf: "Making new and important connections with new friends and the synagogue."

What do you think your learning curve was?

Carly: "I think I learned a lot when I was brainstorming about my drash and learning to interpret parts of the Torah."

Hazel: "The whole experience was a learning experience for me. I discovered that I could develop a better connection to Sha'ar Zahav. I learned to stand in front of a group and lead prayers."

Nina: "When I was nearing the end of my studies, I really had to concentrate on all aspects of my Bat Mitzvah—chanting Torah, learning my Haftorah portion in Ladino and writing my drash."

What do think was unique about your B'nei Mitzvah experience at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav that was different from your friends' experience at other synagogues?

Hazel: "I know that my Bat Mitzvah was significantly different because I got to choose the service and help create the service outline. The service was a Saturday morning service, but it also had my unique imprint."

Carly: "The mentor program is different, and I had really cool mentors! All of my friends seemed to really like

their mentors. It was a great way to meet new people at the synagogue. Every kid is encouraged to be creative and unique. Our synagogue is small and intimate, and we get to know everyone: the Rabbi, Cantor, and Rebecca. And Manny."

Nina: "It was more personal. There were English readings, songs, and contributions from meaningful people in my life. I got to use "our" prayer book which is amazing and unique to our synagogue. The B'nei Mitzvah Chavurah had a session about our drashes, and we were really encouraged to create something really creative from our new perspective."

What do you think your relationship to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will be in the future?

Nina: "I think I would like to come for social events and to meet with my friends and for holidays."

Hazel: "I would come to continue my relationship with my friends and High Holidays. And to see Manny."

Carly: "I will come and be involved. When I get older, I plan on coming back and visiting the synagogue and having it be a part of my life. Every room in the synagogue has a memory for me!"

How do you think you are going to be Jewish in the future?

Nina: "When I grow up and if I have a family, I would like to do Jewish holidays and when my kids are old enough, I would ask them if they want to go on the journey to be a Bat Mitzvah."

Carly: "I am going to celebrate Jewish holidays, raise my kids Jewish, and join into a Jewish community."

Hazel: "I don't know what my Judaism will look like in the future. I will hold onto the customs and have a respect for Jewish people."

What do you like about being Jewish?

Hazel: "I like all the people I have met over my Jewish experience."

Carly: "I like having a Jewish identity, wearing a Jewish star around my neck, and having a Jewish community."

Nina: "I liked having a Bat Mitzvah and having my own unique identity, being part of a special tribe that is small and special."

These are just a few reflections of the impact that our B'nei Mitzvah program has on our youth. Many things stand out for me—their sense of belonging to the community, their unique experiences of Judaism, and how this will impact their future.

Our B'nei Mitzvah program is one of the most innovative and meaningful. Therefore, I am asking you to do a real mitzvah related to our B'nei Mitzvah program; talk to people about it, share the wealth, let other friends and congregants know about this special program.

I was dismayed to learn that a rather large segment of the Congregation Sha'ar Zahav community is not aware of this incredible program that we have here. I am hoping to raise the profile of this incredible gem that we have at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, not only to members but the Jewish community at large.

So talk amongst your friends. "Discuss..." as Linda Richmond said (*Saturday Night Live* reference).

And show some Naches (pride) for our amazing students!

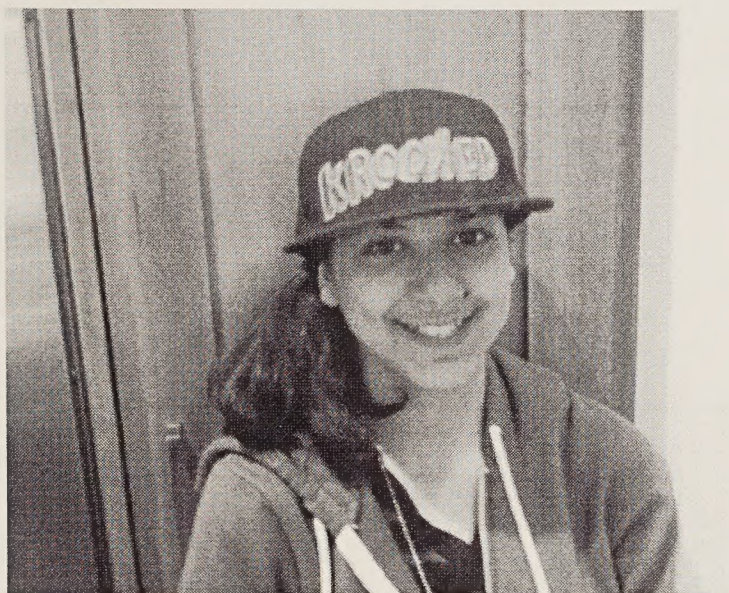
Oy, I am verklemt!

B'Shalom,

Rebecca

Introducing the B'nei Mitzvah

Deanna May Schemmel Shapiro



Deanna May Schemmel Shapiro will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on June 2, 2012 at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Deanna is in the 7th grade at Live Oak School. She loves music, computers and skateboarding. Deanna is the daughter of Jonathan Shapiro and Luke Schemmel and the sister of Elise

Schemmel Shapiro and Scott Schemmel Shapiro.

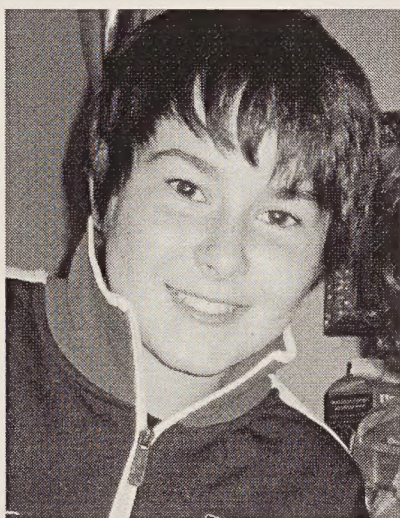
Deanna started her Jewish education at Temple Israel in Boston, Massachusetts. In June, 2007 Deanna moved with her family to Palo Alto where she continued to study Hebrew at Temple Beth Am in Los Altos Hills. Last year Deanna's family moved into the City, at which time she joined the Beit Seifer class at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

Deanna (and her parents!) would like to give a big heartfelt thanks to her mentor, Laurie Trupin, who has worked so hard to help prepare Deanna for her big day. She would also like to thank Rebecca Wiener and all the teachers at Beit Sefer who have helped over the past year.

Elias Leon Rose

Elias Leon Rose will be called to the Torah for his Bar Mitzvah on May 26, 2012.

A lifelong member of Sha'ar Zahav, he spent his very first Shabbat with his family at Friday evening services at CSZ. He is in the 7th Grade at the San Francisco School where he has been since pre-school. He loves to draw and paint, and has been taking art classes after school regularly for 4 years. He enjoys listening to and playing music, and is active in sports and student government at his school. He is a student of Tae Kwon Do and currently holds a 2nd degree black belt.



served meals to the homeless with Dorothy Day House. He volunteers at his Tae Kwon Do school, teaching new students one evening a week. More recently, he helped make and distribute sandwiches to homeless youth with a church group. On an ongoing basis, he collects clothes and toys to send to children whose parents have died from AIDS in Mozambique.

He has been a healing presence to his uncle who has been seriously ill with AIDS for the past five years. This experience inspired him to write an opinion piece about the impact of AIDS on the world for submission to KQED's *Perspectives* segment, and has taught him about the mitzvah of Bikur Cholim.

Elias is looking forward to celebrating with his friends, family and the larger community. We would like to thank Elias's mentors, Andy Schwartz and John Mark Eggerton as well as Ora Prochovnick, Rebecca Weiner, and the many others that have helped prepare for his big day.

Throughout his life, he has learned the mitzvah of tzedakah in a number of ways. Since he was very young has

Sha'ar Zahav

Sivan-Tamuz 5772

JUNE 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					11 SIVAN 8:15 pm Shabbat Service	12 SIVAN 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service, Bat Mitzvah
						1
						2
13 SIVAN	14 SIVAN	15 SIVAN	16 SIVAN	17 SIVAN	18 SIVAN 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	19 SIVAN 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
						8
						9
20 SIVAN	21 SIVAN	22 SIVAN	23 SIVAN	24 SIVAN	25 SIVAN 6:00 pm Tikkun Olam committee 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	26 SIVAN 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service 5:30 pm Pride Freedom Seder
						16
27 SIVAN	28 SIVAN 10 am Band Camp for week	29 SIVAN	30 SIVAN	1 TAMUZ 6:45 pm Va'ad Meeting	2 TAMUZ 7:30 pm Pride Shabbat	3 TAMUZ 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service Pride Shabbat
						23
						22
4 TAMUZ	5 TAMUZ	6 TAMUZ	7 TAMUZ	8 TAMUZ	9 TAMUZ 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Installation of Va'ad	10 TAMUZ 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
						30
						29
						28
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						26
						25
						24

L'hitraot to Daniel Meyer-O'Keeffe

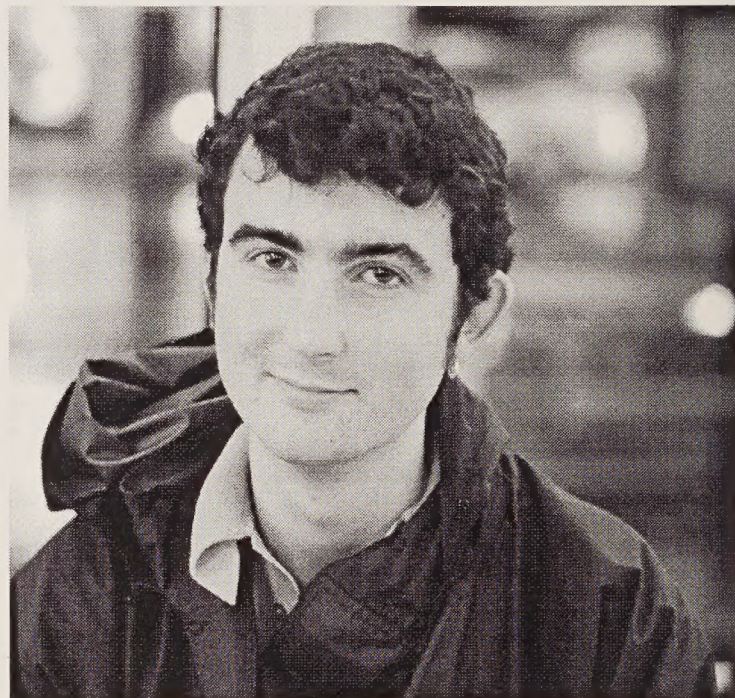
Daniel is heading off to beautiful Bard College in the Hudson Valley in the Fall. We want to congratulate him on his graduation from International High School, and wish him the best of luck in college. We will miss him.

Daniel has been playing his guitar and song/ service leading at CSZ for several years. He has worked with Friday Night Live, Friday Night Spirit, Shabbat Simcha, and Beit Sefer. We thank him for his talented and spirited contribution to our youth programming.

Of course, Daniel will also miss Friday Night Live-

"The services I've been privileged to lead at CSZ have been extremely enjoyable for me. As a high school student, the services were a constant in my life, and would give me something to look forward to in the midst of my stressful and confusing time at school. I love working with kids, especially ones as joyful and full of life as the ones at CSZ. I will truly miss the orchestra of children with toy guitars jamming along with Isaac and myself at FNL."

Best wishes, Daniel, and we know you will visit when you are in town.



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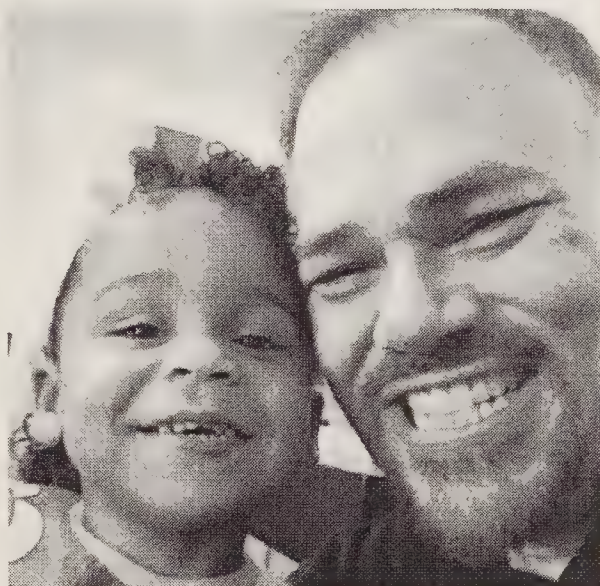
David Gellman
Attorney at Law
DGellman@g3mh.com

EDITOR'S NOTE

An Introduction

BY FRANCISCO CARAVAYO

I am honored to take over as Editor of the JGF. I earned a Master's degree in Applied Linguistics from UC Davis where I also taught Spanish and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). After teaching I entered publishing as the Executive Editorial Assistant to the Publisher of McGraw-Hill's Foreign Language Division, a major producer of foreign language textbooks. I left publishing to pursue civil service as an Elections Coordinator in Alameda County. However, it could not compare to the opportunity given to me by my partner, Dr. Jonathan Strober. Last year I retired to become Stay-at-Home *Papi* to our daughter, Tallulah.



I am the descendant of *B'nei Anusim* Jews—children of those who were forced [to convert from Judaism to Catholicism by the Inquisition]. Like many Iberian Peninsula Jews, I avoid *converso* which implies a voluntary conversion and *mar-rano* because it means “swine.” My family's secret Jewish identity, a secret kept for over half a millennium, took years to unravel.

I look forward to working with Rabbi Angel, Regina Wurst, Francie McGowan and CSZ leadership to keep you informed of the happenings in

our shul. You can contact me at jgfeditor@gmail.com.

Adrienne Rich

(continued from page 2)

Julie Dorf writes, “I remember helping Russian feminist Olga Lipovskaya translate ‘Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence’ into Russian in 1986 and then type out with carbon paper for underground distribution in Leningrad. It was indeed a powerful piece for many of us!”

Claudia Bernard writes, “Adrienne Rich was the drummer; we were the marchers. From our first baby steps to our grandest parades, hers was the rhythm to which we moved.”

Judith Wolfe writes, “There were no other voices like hers when I was trying to maneuver my way thru the world. I had moved from Michigan and was trying to find my place in the world. Adrienne Rich spoke to my Jewish lesbian struggling self.”

Batya Kalis writes, “Some of her poetry was called *angry* by the critics, but her ‘Tattered Kaddish’ for all suicides, which appears in the Yizkor service in CSZ's supplemental readings, underlines her “praises to life” despite its challenges. May her memory be for a blessing.”

When we were seeking Rich's permission to include an excerpt from her poem “Sources” in our Sha'ar Zahav Siddur, Ms. Rich wrote us to say how very honored she felt to be included.

Shalom, Adrienne Rich, Shalom. May you know a lasting peace.

Drawing Near to the Divine

(continued from page 3)

for the past year. In the many small groups you participated in, from the survey you filled out, in discussions with staff, clergy and other leaders in our community, a vision and a goal stood out. My joke has been that I was hoping for something simple – if we painted the Oneg Room blue, everything would be perfect – but as David reminded us, honoring the Divine requires sacrifice. I believe our community, our Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, is one way we honor the divine in all of us, and for our community to remain vital and holy, we will have to give of ourselves.

Soon after our Annual Meeting, we will celebrate Shavuot, the festival that celebrates the giving and receiving of Torah. When we were given the Torah, we responded, “*na'aseh v'nishma*” – we will do and we will hear/understand. Standing at Sinai, we understood that actions were important. If we want to understand our holy text, if we want to draw near to the Divine, we must act.

At the Annual Meeting, you will be asked to make a sacrifice of time and energy, to give a commitment of yourself to our congregation. May we all find it in ourselves to say *yes*, to answer *na'ash v'nishma*. We will do and we will understand.

This is my last President's Column for the JGF, so I want to thank you all for allowing me the privilege of serving as your president. I look forward to many more years of working, learning, praying, and playing with you at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. L'shalom.

AIDS Fund

Neil Hart in memory of Tim Elliott.

Chesir/Stein Music Fund

Jon Zimman

in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah

CSZ Siddur Bookplates

A Friend of CSZ in honor of Andrew Ramer.

Bernard Axelrad & Sally Ravel in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Alex Ingersoll.

James Carlson in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.
in memory of his father, Raymond Carlson.
in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.

Dana Corvin & Harris Weinberg in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Steve Elman & Tom Holt in honor of Alex Ingersoll becoming a bar mitzvah.

Stephanie Hannaford & Christine Witzel in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Deborah Heller in honor of Alex Ingersoll for his Bar Mitzvah.

Nancy Ingersoll in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Clarissa Kripke & Gail Ludwig in honor of Joyce Triptta Cohen & Yonah Thunderword's wedding.

Shoshana Levenberg & Andrea Guerra in memory of Max Fine, Sister of Choice, Now & Always.

Ron Lezell in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Gerry Llamado in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

The Lubeck-Weiner Family in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Pamela Merchant & Kirby Sack in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Ora Prochovnick in memory of Ammiel Prochovnick- my teacher, my father, a real mensch.

Andrew Ramer in celebration of the life of Irmgard Baum 1924-2007.

Jeane Redsecker in honor of Diana Buchbinder.

Jeff Rubin in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Karen Schiller in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.
in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.

Sam Thal in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Susan Tubbesing & Sarah Nathe in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Larry Wexler in honor of Alex & Martin.

Ami Zusman in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

General Fund

Marcie Adelman in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Marianne Balin & Prudence Carter in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Allan Berenstein in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz, Max Radetsky, Isabel Fishman, Noah Nacamulli, Ron Gertz, and Norma Faini-Pick.
in honor of his dear friend, Batya Kalis.

Donna Blow & Nancy Muller in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Lore Borsoni in honor of Alex Ingersoll's birthday and Bar Mitzvah.

Diana Buchbinder & Jeane Redsecker in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Henry Carrey in memory of his bobe, FrahdI Herman Postalov.
in memory of his brother, David Reuben Carrey.
in memory of his great-grandfather, Dovid Hersh Herman.

Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.
in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.

Dana Corvin & Harris Weinberg in honor of Alex Ingersoll.

Allan Gold & Alan Ferrara in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Nancy Ingersoll in honor of her brother, Alex, on the occasion of his 65th birthday and Bar Mitzvah.

Batya Kalis in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Rose Katz in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.
in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.
in memory of her father, Marvin J. Katz.
in honor of Francisco Caravayo's Welcoming into the Covenant.

Janet Klein & Lisa Ann DiGirolamo in memory of Fanny Klein.

Gabriel Lampert in memory of his father, Benjamin Lampert.

Shoshana Levenberg & Andrea Guerra in honor of their mothers, Marion Levenberg and Barbara Guerra.

Deborah Levy in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Ron Lezell in memory of his father, Sam Lezell.

Gerry Llamado in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Merle Malakoff & Gina Surber in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Arthur Meirson in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah and Birthday.

Richard Meyerson in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Arthur Morris & Michael Miller in honor of Alex Ingersoll on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah.

Michael & Sarah Nordhausen in honor of Paul Cohen.

Janis Portal in memory of her mother, Marion Portal.

Brad Post & Susan Leff

Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz in honor of Alex Ingersoll becoming a bar mitzvah.

Gerald Rosenstein in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Karen Schiller in honor of Andy Schwartz's 50th birthday.
in honor of Triptta Cohen & Yonah Thunderword's wedding.

Yolande Schneeman in honor of Ora Prochovnick & Rose Katz.

Arthur Slepian in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Cherie Tannenbaum in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Martin Tilzer & Jeff Piade in memory of Ethel Pollak Regan.
in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Susan Tubbesing in memory of her mother, Ann Kohout.

Steve Weiner in memory of Antonia Nathan, mother of Nurit Robinson.

Judith Wolfe in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Madelyn Wolfe in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Lydia & David Zinn in honor of Ora Prochovnick.
in memory of her mother, Sylvia Radovich.

Ami Zusman in honor of Andy Schwartz's milestone birthday.

High Holiday Pledges 5772

Claudia Bernard & Howard Herman

Lucy Bernholz & Paula Fleisher

Jim Edlin & Eve Meyer

Don Fischer

Kim & Justyn Lezin-Haveson

Jeffrey Lilly

Kendra Lubalin & Aimee Gross

Irene Ogus

Lisa Szer in honor of Rabbi Angel.

Phyllis Mintzer Education Fund

Susan Shalit in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk Musical Event Fund

James Carlson in memory of Rick Brattin. in memory of Richard Roginski.

Jonathan Funk in memory of Harry Shrago.

in memory of Eleanor and Marvin Gorodetzer.

in memory of Mike Kozlowski.

Jonathan Funk & John Arnold in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Avraham Giannini in honor of Cantor Bernstein's music.

Tova Green in memory of her father, Alexander Schwartz.

Sharyn Saslafsky in honor of Alex Ingersoll's 65th Birthday and Bar Mitzvah

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Al Baum in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

Avraham Giannini

Deborah Levy in memory of her grandmother, Ethel Heller Pollak Regan.

in appreciation of Rabbi Angel.

Jeffrey Lilly

The Estate of Ethel Regan

Ritual Fund

Arthur Meirson in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah and Birthday

Aaron & Emily Meyer

Jeffrey A. Miller Scholar-in-Residence with Andrea Hodos

Betty Miller Thank you Betty for your support of the Jeffrey A. Miller Scholar-in-Residence Program!

Social Action Fund

Beth Levine in honor of Alex Ingersoll becoming a Bar Mitzvah!

Arthur Meirson in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah and Birthday
Merle Axelrad Serlin in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.

February

3/4

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by **Scott & Glenda Graham** for the *yahrzeit of Alejandra Elena Graham*

24/25

Friday Night Live Dinner generously sponsored by **Ilana Drummond & Sharon Dulberg** In memory of Sharon's brother, Louis Adam Dulberg

Bimah Flowers generously sponsored by **Rose-Anne Donner Colt**

In memory of her father, Isaac C. Donner

Saturday Kiddush Luncheon generously sponsored by **Fred & Irene Tannenbaum** In honor of's Bar Mitzvah

March

2/3

Bimah Flowers generously sponsored by **Deborah Levy** In memory of her grandmother, Ethel Heller Pollak Regan

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by **The Hyman Family** In memory of Bill Manning

9/10

Bimah Flowers generously sponsored by **Rose-Anne Donner & David Colt** In memory of David's twin brother, William A. Colt

16/17

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by **Paul Cohen** In memory of his father, Joseph M. Cohen & In honor of the aliyah to Israel of Glenda & Scott Graham

23/24

Bimah Flowers, Friday Oneg and Saturday Kiddush Generously Sponsored by **Ann Bauman & Kelly Thiemann** In honor of Ann's Bat Mitzvah

30/31

Friday Night Live Generously Sponsored by **Jim Frazin, Kim & Justyn Lezin-Haveson and Lisa Russ & Adam Weis**

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Sponsorships

Naches

Mazel Tov to Bevan Dufty on being appointed by Mayor Ed Lee to be Director of Housing Opportunity, Partnerships and Engagement (HOPE) in San Francisco.

Mazel Tov to Allan Berenstein! Project Open Hand declared February 22, 2012 to be the Allan Berenstein Day of Love, with a sign in the lobby of their building explaining that the project's meals and groceries programs that day have been made possible through Allan's support.

Mazel Tov to Sophie Macks, Fammy Awardee, March 24, at the JFCS Fammy Awards, for her work in Emergency Family Assistance and YouthFirst for teens.

Life Cycles

Mazel Tov to Marianne Schlosser on her welcoming into the Covenant and to Marianne and Danielle Schlosser and

Avery Marie on Avery's Naming.

Mazel Tov to Alex Ingersoll on his Bar Mitzvah.

Mazel Tov to Francisco Caravayo on his welcoming into the Covenant.

Mazel Tov to Ann Bauman on her Bat Mitzvah.

Welcome to New Member

Wendy Brummer

Music in the Mishkan

CSZ's Chamber Music Concert Series

Randall Weiss, Music Director

"O Sole Trio"

Three Nocturnes – Ernest Bloch

Piano Trio No. 2 in B minor – Joachin Turina

Piano Trio in E minor, Op. 90 "Dumky" – A. Dvorak

Sunday, May 20, 2012

4:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15 members; \$20 non-members

Advance purchase by phone 415-861-6932

Tickets also available at the door

Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives.

Where there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible.

We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

Rabbi Camille
Shira Angel

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Helen Schwartz, Pre-need Counselor

Condolences

We extend our condolences to Janet Klein and Asa and Finch on the loss of their grandmother and great-grandmother, Fannie S. Klein.

We extend our condolences to Ami Zusman on the loss of her friend Ann Goldstein.

We extend our condolences to Terry Fletcher on the loss of her friend, Tyrrell O'Neill.

We extend our condolences to Martin Rawlings-Fein and to Ben Lunine on the loss of their mutual friend, Alexis Rivera.

Member Yahrzeits

May

- 9 Richard Inlander
- 9 Jack Jacobs
- 13 Jerome Davis
- 13 David Delroy
- 14 Thomas Yazman
- 17 Nanci Stern
- 19 Allan Altman
- 20 Robert Coffman
- 21 James Perkins
- 24 David Loeb

June

- 2 Jay Feinstein
- 2 Mark B. Feldman
- 8 Robert N Mackey
- 8 Judy Macks
- 9 Duff Kreitzberg
- 14 John Atteridge
- 14 Mirtha Beal
- 15 Barry Siegel
- 16 Michael Randall
- 16 Richard Rath
- 17 Joe Zygielbaum
- 20 William E. Valentine
- 24 David Shaber

Our Legacy Community

Twenty more members have signed Letters of Intent since the beginning of 2012. This brings the total number of commitments to 48. We need another 15 to reach our 2nd year goal.

A common response we hear from members is that they've already named CSZ in their will/trust. We love hearing that! It is music to our ears! But, what we REALLY need now from you (if you are one of those people) is a signed Letter of Intent. If we reach our 2nd year goal with the Jewish Community Federation we will earn another \$6,000 bonus!

Please let me know – Irene.ogus@gmail.com – if you're ready, and I can send a Letter of Intent for you to fill out.

We continue to contact members who have not made a Legacy commitment year because we want to have the conversation about the importance of securing the future of CSZ.

The names shown below have already make their commitment and are now members of our Legacy Society. We plan to recognize them in a very special way. Can we add your name soon?

Thank you,

Anonymous
 Marianne Balin
 Jesse (Shai) Begley
 Wayne Bender
 James Carlson
 Daniel Chesir
 Ellie Cohen & Michal Goralsky
 Paul Cohen
 Jonathan Funk
 David Gellman
 Avraham Giannini
 Allan Gold
 Sarita Groisser
 Alex Ingersoll &
 Batya Kalis
 Rose Katz

Tom Lakritz
 Walter Leiss
 Shoshana Levenberg
 Nancy Levin
 Deborah Levy
 Jeffrey Lilly
 Lipschutz
 Eileen Lynette
 Mark Mackler
 Paul L. Margolis
 Steven Mazer
 Irene Ogus
 Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz
 Mike Rankin
 Karen Schiller
 & Jerry Llamado
 William "Bill" Smith
 Howard Steiermann
 Debra Udin
 Dana Vinicoff
 Larry Wexler
 Dennis R Ybarra
 Frank Yellin & Mark Showalter

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Non-members pay \$50 plus tax.

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by ordering it online at www.siddurshaarzahav.com